

SUBJECT:	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE THAMES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (BTVLEP) CONTRIBUTION
REPORT OF:	<i>Councillor Ralph Bagge</i>
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	<i>Acting Chief Executive</i>
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WARD/S AFFECTED	<i>All</i>

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the Council's continued financial contribution to the Bucks Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP).

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet to approve the allocation of £2,700 pa from existing budgets, contribution towards the running costs of BTVLEP identified in the report for the period 2015/16 – 2017/18.

2. Reasons for Recommendations

Investment in business growth through BTVLEP will contribute to the sustainability of the local community and businesses.

3. Content of Report

- 3.1 The establishment of the BTVLEP has opened up opportunities to influence the investment of various funding streams which have, and will be, awarded to the area by the government
- 3.2 Whilst the government has awarded substantial funds for investment in growth initiatives determined by the BTVLEP, each LEP is expected to part fund its own day to day running costs. To this end both local authorities and business in the LEP area need to make a contribution which will secure the availability of its secretariat services. In August 2012 Cabinet agreed to provide funding for 2012/13 – 2014/15 and this agreement now needs to be extended for the current financial year and beyond. The contribution required from each district is based on respective population figures. South Buck District Council's contribution is £2,700pa.

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3.3 This small contribution will ensure that the Council can continue to play its full role on the BTVLEP Board and help influence the development of business and infrastructure growth initiatives locally and across Buckinghamshire.

3.4 Cabinet is asked to approve the funding which can be delivered within existing budgets.

4. Consultation

Not Applicable

5. Corporate Implications

5.1 Financial

On the basis of population, the Council's contribution has been assessed at £2,700 for 2015/16 – 2017/18, which is the same level as its 2014/15 contribution.

5.2 Legal

None

6. Links to Council Policy Objectives

Provide best value for money services
Promote healthier communities
Promote sustainability

7. Next Steps

To confirm funding commitment to BTVLEP management.

Background Papers:	It is a legal requirement that we make available any background papers relied on to prepare the report and should be listed at the end of the report (copies of Part 1 background papers for executive decisions must be provided to Democratic Services)
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